

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
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P R 080815Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5903
INFO USLO PEKING PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 3737

NOFORN

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PEPR, PGOV, JA, CH
SUBJECT: GROWING GOJ CONCERN AS ROUND TWO OF SATO-HAN TALKS
ON PFT PRODUCES LITTLE PROGRESS

REFS: A. PEKING 0584 (NOTAL); B. TOKYO 2611

SUMMARY: SECOND ROUND OF DISCUSSIONS ON SINO-JAPANESE
PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY (PFT), HELD MARCH 4 BETWEEN
JAPANESE AMBASSADOR AND PRC VICE FONMIN, WENT NOWHERE AND
GOJ NOW CONCERNED LEST TALKS BREAK DOWN. JAPANESE EMBASSY
PEKING HAS SUGGESTED NEXT ROUND BE LOWERED TO LEVEL OF
JAPANESE MINISTER AND CHINESE FONOFF ASIAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR.
END SUMMARY.

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1. IN ASSESSING MARCH 4 TALKS BETWEEN JAPANESE AMBASSADOR
SHOJI SATO AND PRC VICE FONMIN HAN NIEN-LUNG ON PFT,
CHINA DIVISION DEPDIR SUGIYAMA TOLD EMBOFF MARCH 7 THAT
LITTLE PROGRESS WAS MADE. HE SAID JAPANESE EMBASSY PEKING
BELIEVED CHANGE OF TACTICS WAS NEEDED LEST TALKS
BREAK DOWN COMPLETELY. IN MARCH 4 DISCUSSION, CHINESE
STUCK TO THEIR VERSION OF PROPOSED TREATY'S ANTI-

HEGEMONY CLAUSE, AND HAN WAS AGAIN UNRESPONSIVE TO SATO'S REQUEST THAT PRC ESCHEW PUBLIC COMMENT WHEN, FOLLOWING PFT SIGNING, GOJ "EXPLAINED" TREATY TO DIET AND PRESS (REF B). HAN ALSO CRITICIZED JAPANESE FOR WORRYING TOO MUCH ABOUT VIEWS OF A "THIRD COUNTRY."

2. SUGIYAMA SAID JAPANESE SIDE WAS PUZZLED AND FRUSTRATED OVER NOT BEING ABLE TO ELICIT RESPONSE FROM HAN ON ABOVE KEY POINT. HE SAID JAPANESE EMBASSY PEKING THOUGHT THAT, RATHER THAN SUBJECT SATO TO ANOTHER FRUITLESS DISCUSSION WITH HAN, IT PERHAPS WOULD BE BETTER TO LOWER LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION (AND EXPECTATION) NEXT TIME BY HAVING JAPANESE MINISTER DONOWAKI MEET WITH HAN'S DEPUTY IN THESE MATTERS, ASIAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR WANG HSIAO-YUN. AMBASSADOR SATO HAS ASKED TOKYO FOR NEW INSTRUCTIONS, AND SUGIYAMA SAID IT WAS NOW UP TO PM FUKUDA AND FONMIN SONODA TO DECIDE WHAT FORM NEXT ROUND OF TALKS WITH CHINESE ON PFT WOULD TAKE.

3. SUGIYAMA PROVIDED CLEARER EXPLANATION THAN WE HAVE HAD PREVIOUSLY OF NATURE OF DISAGREEMENT REMAINING BETWEEN TWO SIDES ON ANTI-HEGEMONY CLAUSE. HE SAID CHINESE WOULD AGREE TO LANGUAGE IN CLAUSE TO EFFECT THAT "STRENGTHENING OF RELATIONS" BETWEEN CHINA AND JAPAN WAS NOT AIMED AT ANY THIRD COUNTRY, WHILE
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JAPANESE WISHED TO STATE SPECIFICALLY THAT "CONCLUSION OF THIS TREATY" NOT AIMED AT ANY THIRD COUNTRY. SUGIYAMA SAID CHINESE POSITION HAD NOT CHANGED SINCE LATE LAST YEAR (SEE 77 TOKYO 19503). SUGIYAMA ADMITTED THAT THERE REALLY DID NOT SEEM TO BE INSURMOUNTABLE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TWO POSITIONS, BUT INTERPRETED PM'S MARCH 6 DIET STATEMENT REITERATING WISH TO CONCLUDE PFT IN MANNER "SATISFACTORY TO BOTH SIDES" AS INDICATION CHINESE SHOULD COME CLOSER TO JAPANESE PHRASEOLOGY ON ANTI-HEGEMONY CLAUSE. SUGIYAMA ESTIMATED IT WOULD TAKE SEVERAL DAYS FOR GOJ TO FORMULATE NEXT STEP IN NEGOTIATING STRATEGY.

4. WHEN ASKED ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF FONMIN SONODA VISITING PEKING (REF A), SUGIYAMA SAID HE PERSONALLY FELT IT WOULD BE UNWISE FOR SONODA HIMSELF TO ATTEMPT TO BREAK DEADLOCK ON PFT. SONODA'S MOST RECENT PUBLIC STATEMENT ON SUBJECT, BEFORE DIET MARCH 6, WAS THAT HE WOULD VISIT CHINA "AT NECESSARY TIME, IF PM GIVES ORDER."
SHERMAN

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